



267.153-DIV

D/ #16
12/12/02
AS

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: : T. Tran
ANTONUCCI et al :
Serial No.: 09/702,322 : Group: 1741
Filed: October 31, 2000 :
For: POLYMERIC...ABOVE 100°C :

600 Third Avenue
New York N.Y. 10016
December 2, 2002

AMENDMENT

RECEIVED
DEC 05 2002
TC 1700

Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the office action of July 18, 2002, please amend
this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 12 (twice amended) A method for conditioning a
polymeric proton exchange membrane for operation at temperatures
above 100°C, the method comprising the steps of:

a: heating the membrane to a temperature at least about 5°C
above its said intended operating temperature;

b: selecting a desired percentage of conversion of the
membrane polymer from an initial amorphous phase to a
crystalline phase;

c: holding said membrane at an elevated temperature for a
predetermined interval, wherein the predetermined
interval has been selected to permit the desired
percentage conversion of amorphous to crystalline